

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) the details are given in Statement-I attached.

(b) The details are given in Statement-II attached.

(c) An Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) is functioning in the Ministry of Commerce since 1992 to provide single window clearance to the proposals for setting up of Inland Container Depots (ICDs)/Container Freight Stations (CFSs) in the country. Setting up of Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSS) is an ongoing process. The proposals are considered by the IMC as and when received, on merits and viability consideration and as such no pre-determined targets envisaged.

Statement-I

Details of Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations in Maharashtra

- (a) Maharashtra—Walbander, Pune (3), Bhandup, J.N. Port, Mulund, Nhava Sheva (2), Dronagiri Node (4), Aurangabad, Nagpur (2), Jalgaon, Waluj, Jashkar (Nhava Sheva), Chanje (Near Sheva)

[Figure in brackets indicate total number]

Statement-II

Details of Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations by private parties

- (b) Nhava Sheva (2)* Dronagiri, Jashkar (Nhava Sheva), Dighi (Pune), Chanje (near Sheva)

*[Out of the two at Nhava Sheva, one is functioning. All others are under implementation].

Advance Ruling Authority

1648. SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Since when is the Authority on Advance Rulings for the NRIs has started functioning;

(b) The number of NRIs sought advance rulings from the Authority during the last one year;

(c) The details of the NRIs residing in different countries claiming NRIs status and sought advance rulings from the Authority; and

(d) The revenue so far earned by the Government from the NRIs seeking such advance rulings from the Authority during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The Authority for Advance Rulings for Non-Residents has been functioning since 15th July, 1994.

(b) Twenty Non-Resident Indians have sought advance rulings from the Authority during the last one year.

(c) The details of the NRIs alongwith their country of residence, who have sought advance rulings, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The Authority gives rulings on proposed transactions which may or may not be acted upon by the NRIs. Therefore, there may or may not be revenue effect of the Rulings.

Statement

Names of NRIs and the country of their residence, who have sought advance Rulings from the Authority for Advance Rulings w.e.f. 01.08.1996 onwards

Sl. No.	Name	Country of Residence
1.	Mr. Sunil Hariram Makhija	UAE
2.	Dr. Suresh Bhandari	USA
3.	Mr. Rishi Prakash Gupta	UAE
4.	Narayanan Pudukode Parameswaran	UAE
5.	Usha Narayanan	UAE
6.	Mr. Lachman Alimchand Bhatia	UAE
7.	Mr. Ajay Kumar Rathi	USA
8.	Dr. Maharaj Krishan Wanchoo	USA
9.	Mr. Gadhamsetty Subramanyam	UAE
10.	Mr. Ganesh Shravan Patel	UAE
11.	Mr. Jamnadas Odhavji Sheth	UAE
12.	Mr. P.R. Subramanian	UAE
13.	Mrs. Sarda Subramanian	UAE
14.	Mr. Sunil Stanislaus George Rebello	UAE
15.	Mr. A.S. Mani	Bahrain
16.	Dr. Prajesh Kumar Sinha	Zambia
17.	Dr. Anjali Sinha	Zambia
18.	Devabhaktuni Durga	UAE
19.	Shri Nihalchand Chunilal Chauhan	UAE
20.	Mr. Tejinder Singh Sethi	UAE

Excise Duty Evasion

1649. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 4377 dated March 21, 1997 regarding Excise duty evasion and state:

- (a) if the information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The information has since been collected.

(b) Under the Central Excises Law, it is not necessary to obtain permission from the Commissioner of Central Excise to manufacture parts of branded goods. However, the duty exemption scheme for small scale units does not cover any goods bearing a brand name or trade name of another person. Cases have been booked against 109 industrial units manufacturing branded goods for alleged evasion of central excise duty amounting to Rs. 741.64 lakhs during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96. In this regard, Show Cause Notices have already been issued to 95 units.

(c) On the basis of the information received, the Assurance given to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4377 has been fulfilled on 29.5.97 within the stipulated time of 3 months.

- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

National Savings

1650. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a downward trend in National Savings/collections since 1995-96;
- (b) if so, the extent of decline;
- (c) the causes of the downward trend;
- (d) whether the rate of interest offered on National Savings Securities are lower than that of commercial banks;
- (e) if so, the difference in the said interest rates;
- (f) whether the Government propose to consider increasing the interest rate on National Savings Securities; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. The gross collections in the various small savings schemes launched by Govt. of India show an increasing trend in 1996-97 over 1995-96. Final figures for 1996-97 are awaited.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration with Government.

Income Tax Tribunal

1651. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a demand for setting up of a bench of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A demand has been made for setting up of a Bench of the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal at Vijayawada.

(c) It has not been found possible to accede to this demand. However, Government has recently approved the setting up of a Bench of the Tribunal at Visakhapatnam.

Manufacturing of Tyre by Multinational Companies

1652. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have permitted Multinational companies to manufacture tyre in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the companies to whom permission has been accorded;
- (c) whether the Government held any discussions with the indigenous tyre industry prior to granting permission to the said multinational companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to protect the interest of indigenous tyre industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) As per the present policy, no permission or Industrial Licence is required to manufacture tyres and other rubber products in the country. Some of the Indian tyre manufacturers like M/s. Goodyear India Ltd., M/s. Dunlop India Ltd., M/s. Bridgestone ACC India Ltd. etc. have gone in for financial as well as technical collaboration with foreign companies to manufacture Automotive/Radial tyres. The details of foreign investment/technical collaboration are published in the SIA Newsletter from time to time, copies of which are regularly placed in the Parliament House Library.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Rubber Parks

1653. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :